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Richard Norris is a professor of paleobiology in the Geosciences Research Division at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego.

His research focuses on the evolution of life in the oceans, with particular emphasis on the mechanisms of extinction and speciation of plankton and the processes of assembly of marine ecosystems. His research utilizes ecological, genetic, and biogeographic studies of living plankton as well as the extensive fossil record of marine plankton. He also works on the climate of past intervals of extremely warm periods using a combination of marine and terrestrial climate indicators in collaboration with climate modelers. His studies have focused on potential analogs for modern global warming such as the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (55 Ma) when the world abruptly warmed in response to a large increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Other areas of interest include the extremely warm climate of the early Late Cretaceous (~85-90 Ma) and the dynamics of both climate and ecosystem evolution following the mass extinction at the Cretaceous/Paleogene boundary (65 Ma).

Born in San Pedro, Calif., Norris received a B.S. in earth sciences from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1981, an M.S. in geosciences from the University of Arizona in 1986, and a Ph.D. in earth and planetary sciences from Harvard University in 1990. He was a postdoctoral scholar and faculty scientist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution before joining Scripps in 2002.

Norris is a member of the American Geophysical Union, the Paleontological Research Institute, the Paleontological Society, the Geological Society of America, the Society for Sedimentary Geology, and the Cushman Foundation for Foraminiferal Research.

He has served on the editorial boards of numerous journals, including *Geobiology*, *Geology*, *G3*, *Paleoceanography*, and *Paleobiology*. He has served on the scientific evaluation committee for the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program, has been a participant or chief scientist on four cruises of the Ocean Drilling Program, and is the curator of the Marine Geological Collections at Scripps. He has edited or written 88 scientific articles, including seven books.

Norris and his family live in Poway, Calif.

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